



**State of Tennessee**  
**Department of Children's Services**

**Administrative Policies and Procedures: 20.41 DOE**

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Youth Health Care</b>
<b>Authority:</b>	TCA 37-5-106
<b>Standards:</b>	None
<b>Application:</b>	All Youth Development Centers.

**Policy Statement:**

It is the policy of the Department of Children's Services that youths shall receive adequate medical, dental, and mental health care. Upon admission to a Youth Development Center, youths must be informed in a manner reasonably calculated to enable them to understand, including orally and in writing, procedures for obtaining medical services. Only trained medical personnel will operate sick call. No staff member without medical training will screen or otherwise interfere with access to sick call.

**Procedures:**

<b>A. MEDICAL CARE</b>	<p>Medical complaints will be monitored and responded to by medically trained personnel. Appropriate triage by qualified personnel will be as follows:</p> <p>A physician will be available each day, (however, this does not mean at the facility) for responding to physical complaints of youths requiring the attention of a physician. When sick call is conducted by someone other than a physician, a physician will come to the facility at least once each week to treat youths, to review the activity of the preceding week, and to receive complaints or comments from youths about medical service delivery.</p> <p>Parents or guardians or other responsible agencies will be notified promptly in cases of serious illness, injury, surgery, or death.</p>
<b>B. Dental Care</b>	<p>Dental care will be provided to each youth under the direction and supervision of a dentist. Dental hygiene services will be provided within a reasonable time after admission to the custody of the Department of Children's Services. Dental treatment, not limited to extractions, will be provided within a reasonable time following admission.</p>

<b>C. Mental Health Care</b>	Screening and referral for care will be provided for mentally ill and mentally retarded youths. All youths will be screened to determine the existence of mental illness or mental retardation. Psychological or psychiatric services will be provided for assessment, evaluation, and treatment. For youths who need psychological or psychiatric services that are beyond those provided by the placement, these services will be provided or the youth will be returned to court pursuant to T.C.A. 41-5-112.
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<b>Forms:</b>	<i>None</i>
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(Note: This Policy Cannot Be Revised Without Prior Permission of Chancery Court, Davidson County, Nashville, Tennessee.)